

Their dedication to this endeavor has been unwavering, and last Friday I was proud to join them as they marked the 1000th consecutive week that folks have gathered at Monument Terrace to express their appreciation for our servicemembers.

And while I applaud the Council on this incredible milestone, I would also like to thank them for all of their work to get homeless veterans off the streets and into housing.

The Lynchburg Area Veterans Council, whose members consist of individuals who have fought in every conflict for the past seventy years, has done so much for our community, and the Sixth District is forever grateful.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE  
AND SERVICE OF CHIEF MASTER  
SERGEANT RICHARD HALL

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 5, 2021*

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Mr. Richard Hall was one of the original Tuskegee Airmen, the country's first Black military aviators in the U.S. Air Force.

Born in Georgia, Hall moved to Central Florida with his parents when he was five months old. A graduate of Robert Hungerford Boarding School in Eatonville, Hall received a four-year scholarship to Xavier University in New Orleans, LA. He joined the Army Air Force Reserves, and in 1942 was sent to fight in World War II.

Mr. Hall was among the first African American Chief Master Sergeants after integration in 1949. He served his country for over three decades and completed tours on four continents, including the Korean and Vietnam wars.

In 2007, Mr. Hall, along with other Tuskegee Airmen received the Congressional Gold Medal from President George W. Bush. In Central Florida, he was honored with a life-sized sculpture that sits outside Hannibal Heritage Center.

Mr. Hall retired to Maitland in the 1980s and continued to call Central Florida home until his death on January 21, 2021.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID D.  
MOON

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 5, 2021*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on the occasion of the Lunar New Year, to recognize and congratulate Mr. David D. Moon for his success as the Chairman and Founder of the Sam Moon Group. Mr. David Moon's impressive career in the retail sector has made an immeasurable contribution to the Texas economy.

Mr. David Moon's career began after his relocation from South Korea to the United States as a salesman for a wig manufacturing firm in 1971. A little more than ten years later, he fol-

lowed through on his vision of building a family business rooted in integrity and diligence and established Sam Moon Trading, Inc. As the success of this business grew, he continued to open new Sam Moon Trading Company locations, which now span the state of Texas. Marked by their savvy ability to offer desirable women's fashion at low costs, Sam Moon Trading Company quickly became a household name. The Sam Moon Trading Company has now expanded into the Sam Moon Group, an enterprise of real estate development, dining, retail, and entertainment.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Mr. David Moon has served on the Board of Trustees for Dallas Baptist University and received numerous accolades including a Lifetime Achievement Award from Dallas Asian-American Chamber of Commerce; a Citizen's Medal of Merit from the Government of the Republic of Korea; and an Honorary Doctor of Humanities from Dallas Baptist University.

Mr. David Moon has a degree from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies and currently resides in Las Colinas, Texas with his wife In Sun Moon.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the achievements of Mr. David Moon, and wish him good fortune and happiness in the New Year.

HONORING PATRICK FORD AS  
IOWAN OF THE WEEK

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 5, 2021*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise before the House to honor Mr. Patrick Ford, Doctor of Physical Therapy and CoFounder and President of Project Onyx. Patrick, who lives in Bondurant with his family, is an example of how an individual can turn their words of wanting to make the world a better place into concrete actions that improve the lives of those in our communities. Through the work of Project Onyx, Patrick and fellow co-founder, Mr. Elijah Muhammad, owner of Unorthodox Fitness, work to "envision a community full of healthy, active individuals who have equal access to health and fitness services provided by diverse and culturally competent professionals" and currently work with a group of 20 young men from around Central Iowa.

After the death of George Floyd in the summer of 2020, Patrick felt called to take action within his community. Reflecting on his own experiences as a biracial Black American, he wanted to work to create a world that would be more just for his daughter to grow up. In June of 2020, he approached Elijah with the idea to address underrepresentation and disparities in health outcomes for Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) and as a result, 'Project Onyx' was created. He became determined to work toward increasing representation in the field of health and fitness and encouraging young BIPOC to enter or explore a career within the health field; having seen firsthand the racial disparities in access to healthcare, fitness, and wellness programs as a full-time physical therapist.

The goal for 2021 is to expand programming beyond the current location in Grimes and allow young people from across Central Iowa to access Project Onyx and double the current participation. In addition to health and wellness services, Patrick's vision for a youth empowerment program came to fruition as a program that blends a physical workout with conversations and dialogue about community issues. Project Onyx's mentorship program provides a launching pad for BIPOC youth who are interested in careers in health and wellness by giving them hands-on experience and career guidance. In the future the partners would like to work towards funding for scholarship opportunities and additional ways to reduce barriers towards a career in health, whether this be a certificate program or four-year degree.

Patrick is keenly aware of the importance of access to health and wellness programs and understands the negative impact of the absence of these programs in communities of color. Through Project Onyx, Patrick is using his education and experiences to help remedy this cultural inequity and serves as an example to all of us of how we can make a difference in our communities. Having never previously felt compelled to take action or be an activist he reevaluated his priorities and determined to make the world a better place for his daughter to live.

I commend Patrick for beginning to address the important work of breaking barriers and creating an avenue for BIPOC to be brought into the field of health and wellness. By providing this service to the community and expanding the reach of Project Onyx many young people from across Central Iowa will be given the opportunity to make our State more inclusive and result in better outcomes for all regardless of race. I thank Patrick, for his service in our community.

RECOGNIZING JIM AND DEBRA  
KRANZ ON BEING NAMED THE  
2021 CITIZENS OF THE YEAR BY  
THE CASS CITY CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

**HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 5, 2021*

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Jim and Debra Kranz on being named the 2021 Citizens of the Year by the Cass City Chamber of Commerce. Jim and Debra Kranz were former longtime owners of the Kranz Funeral Homes. In their free time, Jim and Debra are highly engaged in their community. Debra is a member of the Rotary Club, and the former president of the Cass City High School Band Boosters, as well as a former member of both the Hills and Dales General Hospital Board of Directors, and the Cass City Women's Club. Jim has been a member of the Cass City Downtown Development Authority and the Rotary Club. I thank Jim and Debra for their tireless dedication and selfless service to the Cass City Community.